

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1 and 2 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 2-16 are pending in this application. Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 2-12 contain allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, claims 2, 6, 7 and 10 are rewritten in independent form to place claims 2-12 in condition for allowance. Claim 1 is canceled, and claim 13 is amended to depend from claim 2. New claims 14, 15 and 16 are added to depend from claims 6, 7 and 10, respectively, reciting additional features similar to those recited in claim 13.

The specification, the title, and the drawings are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Office Action objects to the drawings, the specification and the claims. Figures 1 and 2, the title, the specification, and claim 2 are amended to overcome these objections. In particular, Fig. 1 is amended to delete the reference symbol "41a" and to add numeral reference "37." Fig. 2 is amended to change a second occurrence of "95" to "96." No new matter is added. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the drawings, the specification and the claims is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,697,013 to Sasaki ("Sasaki"). This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 1 and in view of the change of claim 13's dependence from claim 1 to claim 2.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge consideration of the references listed on, and to return initialed copy of, the Form PTO-1449 submitted with the August 22, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the August 22, 2005 Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 2-16 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GXL/jrj

Attachments:

Replacement Sheets
Petition of Extension of Time
Amendment Transmittal
Copy of August 22, 2005 Form PTO-1449

Date: November 3, 2005

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